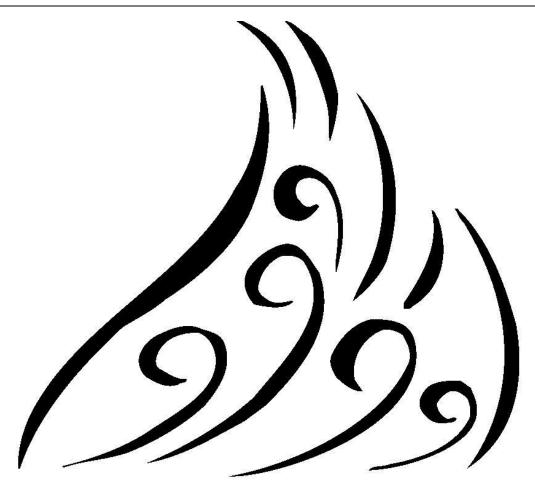
KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

Lucy Wynard, Senior Pastor H. Ashley Hall, Associate Pastor 2650 Farnam Street Omaha, NE 68131-3616 402-341-7761 www.kmlchurch.org

June 8, 2025

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

DAY of PENTECOST



On Pentecost, we celebrate that we have been given an Advocate to accompany us. Poured out in wind and fire, water, wine, and bread, the Holy Spirit abides in and among us. We give thanks that God speaks to each of us, no matter our origins, language, or life path. Filled with the Spirit of truth, we go out from worship to proclaim the saving power of Christ's love and the freedom of God's grace with all the world.

GATHERING

PRELUDE Mark Jones, organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(rise in body or spirit)

EASTER ACCLAMATION

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

- P In the name of + the One who was, who is, and who is to come.
- C Amen.
- **P** Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God,

we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One,

- **C** make us one as you are one.
- We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One,
- **C** make us one as you are one.
- We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One,
- **C** make us one as you are one.
- P Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that each day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.
- C Amen.

Refrain

Hail thee, festival day! Blest day to be hallowed forever; day when our Lord was raised, breaking the kingdom of death.

- 1 Bright and in likeness of fire, on those who await his appearing, he whom the Lord had foretold suddenly, swiftly descends: *Refrain*
- 2 Daily the loveliness grows, adorned with the glory of blossom; heaven its gates now unbars, flinging its increase of light: *Refrain*
- 5 Spirit of life and of pow'r, now flow in us, fount of our being, light that enlightens us all, life that in all may abide: *Refrain*
- 6 Praise to the giver of good!
 O Lover and Author of concord,
 pour out your balm on our days;
 order our ways in your peace: Refrain

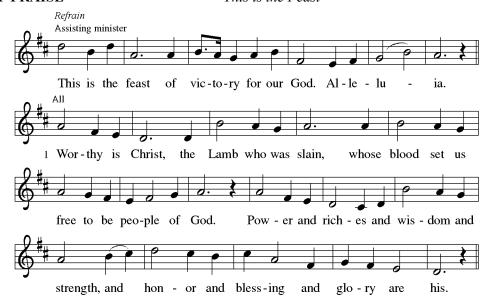
Text: Venantius Honorius Fortunatus, 530-609; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

- P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- **C** And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

This is the Feast





PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P God our creator.
- the resurrection of your Son offers life to all the peoples of earth. By your Holy Spirit, kindle in us the fire of your love, empowering our lives for service and our tongues for praise, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

(sit)

FIRST READING Genesis 11:1-9

The builders of the tower of Babel try to make a name for themselves by building their tower to the heavens. God scatters them, confusing their language so that they cannot understand one another. The miracle at Pentecost is a reversal of sorts, drawing many people with many languages together into the new people of God.

Now the whole earth had one language and the same words. ² And as they migrated from the east, they came upon a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. ³ And they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks and fire them thoroughly." And they had brick for stone and bitumen for mortar. ⁴ Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a

name for ourselves; otherwise we shall be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth." ⁵ The Lord came down to see the city and the tower, which mortals had built. ⁶ And the Lord said, "Look, they are one people, and they have all one language, and this is only the beginning of what they will do; nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them. ⁷ Come, let us go down and confuse their language there, so that they will not understand one another's speech." ⁸ So the Lord scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. ⁹ Therefore it was called Babel, because there the Lord confused the language of all the earth, and from there the Lord scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth.

L Word of God, Word of Life.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 104:24-34, 35b (read responsively)

²⁴ How manifold are your works, O Lord!

In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

²⁵ Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too many to number, living things both small and great.

²⁶ There go the ships to and fro,

and Leviathan, which you made for the sport of it.

²⁷ All of them look to you to give them their food in due season.

²⁸ You give it to them; they gather it; you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

²⁹ When you hide your face, they are terrified; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.

- ³⁰ You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; and so you renew the face of the earth.
- May the glory of the Lord endure forever; O Lord, rejoice in all your works.
- ³² You look at the earth and it trembles; you touch the mountains and they smoke.
- ³³ I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will praise my God while I have my being.
- ³⁴ May these words of mine please God. I will rejoice in the Lord.
- 35b Bless the Lord, O my soul. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING Acts 2:1-21

Children may follow along using the Spark Bible turning to page 502

Before Jesus ascended into heaven, he told his disciples they would be filled with the Holy Spirit. Now, amid signs of fire, wind, and a variety of languages, the people were amazed and astonished at Jesus' promise coming true.

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ² And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶ And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷ Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? ⁸ And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹ Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹ Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." ¹² All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" ¹³ But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

¹⁴ But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵ Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶ No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷ 'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.

- ¹⁸ Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.
- ¹⁹ And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below,

blood, and fire, and smoky mist. ²⁰ The sun shall be turned to darkness

and the moon to blood.

before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

²¹ Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

L Word of God, Word of Life.

C Thanks be to God.

(rise in body or spirit)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



P The Holy Gospel according to St. John.



HOLY GOSPEL John 14:8-17, 25-27

Though the disciples struggle with Jesus' nature and identity, they receive the promise that they too will be identified with God and God's mission. Though he must leave them now, Jesus promises the coming of the Advocate whom God will send to comfort and enlighten them.

Philip said to Jesus, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." ⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

¹⁵ "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

²⁵ "I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

(sit)

CHILDREN'S BLESSING 9:00 AM

Children (aged 3 years through 5^{th} grade) are invited to come forward for a blessing. Then, they may either return to their seat and use the Spark Bible and/or activity bags during the regular sermon, or follow Ms. Boe upstairs for an activity in the Sunday School room.

SERMON Pastor Wynard

HYMN OF THE DAY

1 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord the peace of the risen Lord Jesus: the peace of the Lord is for you and for me, and also for all of God's children.

The peace of the Lord is for you and for me,

and also for all of God's children.

- 1 La paz del Señor, la paz del Señor, la paz del Resucitado:
 la paz del Señor a ti y a mí, a todos alcanzará; la paz del Señor a ti y a mí, a todos alcanzará.
- 2 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the peace of the risen Lord Jesus: the peace of the Lord is among us right now, so open yourselves to receive it.

 The peace of the Lord is among us right now, so open yourselves to receive it.
- 3 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the peace of the risen Lord Jesus: the peace of the Lord kept within cannot live, so open yourselves now to share it.

 The peace of the Lord kept within cannot live, so open yourselves now to share it.

Text: Anders Ruuth; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923 Spanish text and tune © Anders Ruuth, admin. Augsburg Fortress. English text © Lutheran World Federation.

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Response: P He

P Hear us, O God.

G Your mercy is great.

(In our prayers today, during a time of silence, pray for those listed below and for others according to their needs)

On-going Care: Sharon Ambler, Cheri Biggs, John Bodnar, Don Burton, Betty Callies, Mike Cswercko, Marilyn Dichsen, Shirley Dietrich, Mike Edris, Kathy Englert, Tracey Gehringer, Dale Grundman, Jessica Hannon, Julie Hoogestraat, Joan Jacobson-Trotter, Jason Klonglan, Julie Knapp, Jack & Marie Kubat, Glenn Lindgren, Ruth & Charles Martis, Lara McCormick, Jane Meyer, Nita Mueller, Linda Peltz, Kathy Preininger, Dan & Ginny Rath, David Samaria, Joyce Wachal, Gary Westerman, Allyson White, Deb Woosley

Other Prayers: *Those serving in the military* – Wyatt Johnson, grandson of Ken and Linda Johnson; Tyler Johnston, son of Robert and Michelle Johnston, Daniel Milstead, nephew of Darlene Anderson; Cody Ray, grandson of Betty Callies; Dannika Rees, daughter of Eric and Toby Rees; Joel Woosley, son of Debbie Woosley, nephew of Steph Stephens

Other Prayers: *Those serving in mission* – Rev. Chandran Paul Martin, India; Dr. Stephen & Jodi Swanson, Tanzania; Katie Larson, Colombia; Rev. Bridget Gautieri, Wittenburg Center, Germany; Rev. Robert & Kathy Moore, Leipzig, Germany; and Dan & Ginny Rath, international translators; our sister congregation, the American Church in Berlin, as they assist refugees from the war in Ukraine

Other Prayers: Seminarians - Joseph Daffer, James Holzer, Giselle Loucks

THE PEACE IS SHARED

Kristi frid (Swedish) Paz de Cristo (Spanish) Mir tobi (Ukrainian) Fred med dig (Danish)
As-salaam alaikum (Arabic) Friede sei mit euch (German)

- P The peace of Christ be with you always.
- **And also with you.**

(sit)

THE OFFERING IS RECEIVED

We glorify God in our giving. Our offering is an act of worship that makes the ministries of this church possible. If you are visiting with us today, please do not feel obligated to participate in this portion of worship. You may use the QR code scanner on your smart phone to give online or mail in your offering or donate online. Thank you!



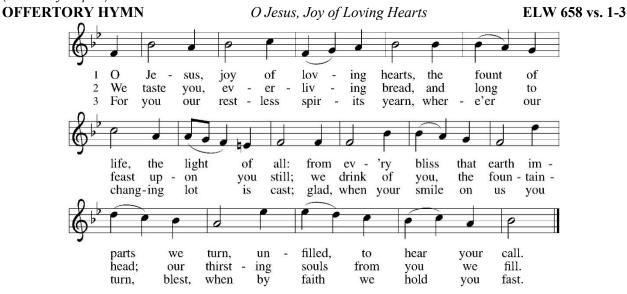
THE TABLE IS PREPARED

OFFERTORY

Nearer, My God, To Thee

by Lowell Mason, arr. Kevin Olson Jean Johnson, *piano*

(rise in body or spirit)

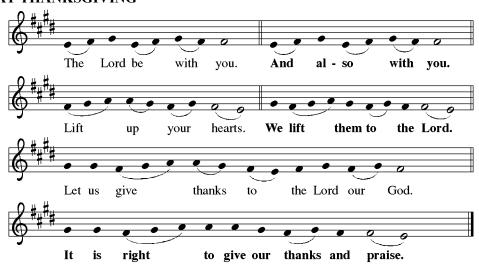


Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091-1153; tr. Ray Palmer, 1808-1887, alt.

OFFERING PRAYER

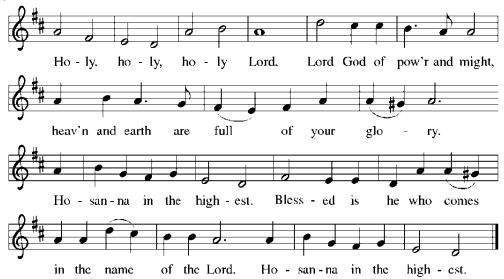
- P Risen One,
- you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



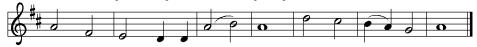
PREFACE

SANCTUS



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

- P Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
 - ... With this bread and cup ... we proclaim the mystery of faith.



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

- P O God of resurrection and new life: . . .
 - ... Grace our table with your presence.
- **©** Come, Holy Spirit.
- Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread ... Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.
- **©** Come, Holy Spirit.
- P With your holy ones ... we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

- P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us all to pray:
- **C** Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

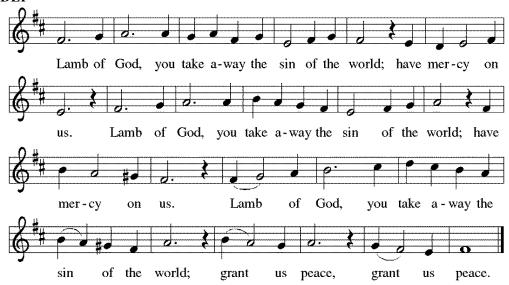
and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

AGNUS DEI



INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- P Come and receive the gift of new life.
- **W**e come to the table of grace.

(sit)

THE DISTRIBUTION

All baptized Christians who confess Jesus Christ as Lord and his Real Presence in, with and under the bread and wine, are welcome to the Lord's Supper. We believe that this is the Lord's table and is he who invites you. So you who are strong in faith, come with gratitude. You who feel weak in faith, come to be strengthened. And you who feel you have no faith, come so that the God of steadfast love will touch your heart with hope and joy. The form of distribution is intinction: you will receive the consecrated bread and then you may dip the bread into the wine. Gluten free bread is available upon request.

HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

We Are All One in Christ Somos uno en Cristo **ELW 643**

We are all one in Christ, we are one body, all one people out of many.

We are all one in Christ, we are one body, all one people out of many.

There is one God, and only one Lord; there is one faith, one holy love.

There is one baptism; there is one Spirit, who is God the comforter.

Somos uno en Cristo, somos uno. Somos uno, uno solo. Somos uno en Cristo, somos uno. Somos uno, uno solo. Un solo Dios, un solo Señor, una sola fe, un solo amor. Un solo bautismo, un solo Espíritu, y ese es el consolador.

> Text: Anonymous; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923 English text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress.

- O day full of grace that now we see appearing on earth's horizon, bring light from our God that we may be abundant in joy this season.
 God, shine for us now in this dark place; your name on our hearts emblazon.
- 2 O day full of grace, O blessed time, our Lord on the earth arriving; then came to the world that light sublime, great joy for us all retrieving; for Jesus all mortals did embrace, all shame and despair removing.
- 3 For Christ bore our sins, and not his own, when he on the cross was hanging; and then he arose and moved the stone, that we, unto him belonging, might join with angelic hosts to raise our voices in endless singing.
- God came to us then at Pentecost, the Spirit new life revealing, that we might no more in death be lost, its pow'r over us dispelling.

 This flame will the mark of sin efface and bring to us all true healing.
- 5 When we on that final journey go that Christ is for us preparing, we'll gather in song, our hearts aglow, all joy of the heavens sharing, and there we will join God's endless praise, with angels and saints adoring.

Text: Scandinavian folk hymn; tr. Gerald Thorson, 1921-2001, alt. Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

(rise in body or spirit)

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- P Living One,
- in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- The triune God,
 who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign,

 → Savior, and Spirit, light your way with
 resurrection dawn, now and always.

THREE-FOLD AMEN



Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939 Text © 1995, 2003 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

DISMISSAL

- P Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- **■** Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE Mark Jones, organ

+ + +

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KOUNTZE STAFF

Senior Pastor Pr. Lucy Wynard Pr. Ashley Hall Associate Pastor Kristin Boe Director of Faith Formation Debbie Bogue Office Manager Danielle Fleming Administrative Assistant Noni Cambridge Staff Treasurer Iudi Boe Financial Secretary Jim Smejkal Bldg. Super./Dir. of Cong. Activities Louis Flake Night Manager Kayla Slaight Janitorial Staff Barbara Carlsen Dir. of Music & Fine Arts Mark Iones Organist David Gerard Saturday Accompanist Shannon Picha **Nursery Director**



2650 Farnam Street 402-341-7761

Omaha. NE 68131 www.kmlchurch.org

June 7 & 8 2025

Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church is a vibrant, historic faith community that welcomes all and provides ministries for all ages and walks of life. We are a "City-wide Church with a World-wide *Ministry*" and have been worshiping, growing, and serving in downtown Omaha for over 165 years. If you are new to Kountze Memorial, we invite you to visit the Welcome Desk in the Fellowship Hall for more information about who we are and what we do.

Holy Communion

Toby Rees

All who are baptized and trust in Christ's presence in Holy Communion are invited to commune at the Lord's Table. Children or anyone who does not commune will receive a blessing. It is the understanding of the universal Church that those who wish to commune with bread only (for health or other reasons) have communed fully. Our form of distribution is Intinction, meaning you will receive the wafer in your hand and then dip it into the wine.

Director of Kountze Commons

Children in Worship

We believe that all are welcome in worship and encourage families to worship together. Activity bags, children's Bibles, and bulletins are available, as well as a room just off the west side of the main sanctuary, that includes a TV and a variety of toys, games, and books for young children.

Nursery

Our nursery is available from 8:45 AM—noon for children 0-2 years. Please ask an usher if you are unsure as to where our nursery is and would like to use it.

Attendance Cards

All those attending worship are encouraged to fill out the card included in your bulletin and place in the offering plates located by the doors in the Nave.

E-news & Social Media

If you would like to receive our weekly e-news and monthly e-newsletter, add your e-mail address to the attendance card in your bulletin.

Large Print Bulletins and Listening Devices

Please speak to an usher if you would like a large print bulletin or an assisted listening device.

Scan to Give Online



Thank you for supporting the ministries

of Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church.

Connect with Pr. Lucy

Schedule a time to meet with Pastor Lucy by following the link or OR Code. https:// calendly.com/pastorlucy/45min

Today at Kountze Memorial

Children's Sermon 9:15 AM

Following the 9 AM Children's Blessing, children in grades Preschool-5th grade may join our Faith Formation Leaders for a children's sermon in the Upper Rooms. All the children will return to their seats in time to receive communion.

Kountze Café Lite 9:30-11:00 AM **Free-will Offering**

Through Labor Day weekend, we will be serving a lighter fare for breakfast. If you would like to help with breakfast, even just for a Sunday or two, please contact Sherri Labedz.

Adult Forum Sundays, 10:10 AM

Join us on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall for a lite breakfast and then stay for Adult Forum.

June 8: Report from Synod Assembly

June 15: Fellowship

KMLC Book Group

Sunday, June 8 - Broken Harbor by Tana French 12:15 PM

Fellowship Lounge

Ioin us for great conversation at this month's Book Group! Whether you've read every page or just started, all are welcome.

Today at Kountze Memorial, continued

Youth Summer Kick-Off Grade 7 and Up Sunday, June 8 5-8 PM Link/Courtyard

Come and join us for a time of fellowship & fun to kickoff the summer. We'll have hotdogs & s'mores around

the firepit, games, and a chance to hang out and get to know other Kountze Memorial young people. Friends are welcome! Open to youth going into 7th grade and up, including recent high school graduates. You may sign up at the Welcome Desk or by calling or emailing the church office. Contact Pastor Lucy at lucy@klmchurch.org with any questions.

June 13 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

June 14 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

June 15 Sunday

Holy Trinity

This Week at Kountze Memorial

June 8 Sunday

Day of Pentecost 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship 9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs) 9:30 AM Kountze Café Lite 10:10 AM Adult Forum 12:15 PM Book Group 5:00 PM Youth Kick-off (gr 7+)

June 9 Monday 10:00 AM Pantry June 10 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

June 11 Wednesday

9:00 AM Sewing Group 12:15 PM Worship 1:00 PM Devotions @ deFreese

June 12 Thursday

Manor

Council Reports Due 9:30 AM WELCA Board 11:30 AM Property Committee 4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

4:00 PM Executive Committee

Father's Day Jun 15 - Jun 20 Camp Week @ CJH 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship 9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs) 9:30 AM Kountze Café Lite 10:10 AM Adult Forum

For Your Calendar/News & Notes

Sewing Group Wednesday, June 11 9:00 AM

Our Sewing Group gets together on the second Wednesday of each month to sew quilt tops, attach backing and binding, and to tie quilts. The quilts are given to Carol Joy Holling Camp for their Annual Quilt Auction, to Lutheran World Relief, and to our high school graduates. Quilting expertise is not necessary. If you can tie your shoes, you can tie a quilt. Come and join the group this summer!

Stories From the Holy Land with Pastors Adam & Jordan Miller-Stubbendick Saturday, June 14 **Luther Memorial Lutheran Church** 1031 Sunset Trail Free & Open to the Public

Pastors Jordan and Adam share stories of the life-changing work of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL), the realities of life in Palestine, and ways that the people of the ELCA can help fellow Christians in the Holy Land. For more information, contact Gretchen Ahrens at 404-583-4591 or gretchen@nebraskasynod.org, or go to the following website to register:

https://tinyurl.com/holylandstories

KMLC Camp Week Camp Carol Joy Holling June 15-20

Join your Kountze friends at Camp Carol Joy Holling. Spend the week making new friends, spending time in nature, and growing in faith through song, lessons, and testimonies. To check on available dates use the QR code or the link below.

http://NLOM.org/caroljoyholling/register

Men's Lunch Thursday, June 19 11:30 AM

Suggested Donation: \$10

Join us in the Fellowship Hall in June as we explore International Picnic Day. And what would a picnic be without fried chicken? Will Jim order out or try his hand at oven fried chicken? You'll have to attend to find out. Please RSVP by Tuesday, June 17. Call the church office, sign up at the Welcome Desk, or email Jim at jim@kmlchurch.org to let us know you're coming.

Summer Service Days 2025/26 7th, 8th & 9th Graders Fridays, June 20 - August 8 (closed on July 4) 8 AM - 4 PM

This summer, students going into grades 7, 8, and 9 are invited to participate in service projects within our church and community. The day will begin between 8 and

For Your Calendar/News & Notes, continued

9 AM with a light breakfast, lunch will be served, and the day will end at 4 PM. Projects include making art for the pantry and freshening up the youth room, working in the community garden, reading or playing board games with the elderly, and more. We know families with children this age are often very busy in the summer. Participation is encouraged on whatever days and times fit your schedule. There is a

> https://www.signupgenius.com/go/ 5080F4EA8A629A0F49-57146062-service#/

Compassion & Courage, Not Controversy Adult Forum Sunday, June 22 10:15 AM **Fellowship Hall**

sign up sheet at the Welcome Desk or you can

register at:

Pr. Lucy invites us to join her during Adult Forum to talk about questions of how and why and what it looks like to be God's church in this divided age. How do we do that in Spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control)? We'll talk together about:

- A biblical approach to difficult conversations.
- What does it look like to treat each other with dignity and compassion - especially when we disagree?
- How much disagreement can we and should we tolerate in our community? How do we do that, practically?
- What are the essentials that unite us? We hope you'll join in the conversation.

Lutheran Collaborative VBS (All free!) Held at Luther Memorial Church 1031 Sunset Trail (61st St. & Western Ave.) **July 20-23**



Preschool (potty trained) to Grade 5 5:15 PM: Family Meal 6-8 PM: Programming

This year, we are going on a "Road Trip with God". Our studies will be based off of the Bible verse Joshua 1:9 -"The Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Join us as we discover God's presence everywhere as we explore new places, make new friends, and experience God's goodness together. Register or volunteer by using the QR code or link below. If you have questions/concerns, please contact Kristin Boe (kristin@kmlchurch.org) or Pastor Becky (402-740-1985 or pastorbecky@lord-oflove.org).

https://luthermemorial.mycokesburyvbs.com/

Nursery Volunteers Needed!

We are seeking volunteers to help provide occasional care for our children in the nursery. Volunteers are willing to be contacted when our regular nursery staff are out of town or otherwise unavailable. This is a wonderful opportunity to serve our youngest members, making a positive impact in their lives and in the lives of their families! Duties include playing with children, changing diapers, and providing a warm and loving environment. Training will be provided. If you have questions or are interested in volunteering, please contact our Nursery Director Shannon Picha at nursery@kmlchurch.org.

Carol Joy Holling Camp 37th Annual Quilt Auction Saturday, July 26, 2025 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM **Carol Joy Holling Camp**



It's time to think about the quilt you'll donate to Carol Joy Holling Camp. The day promises good food, great fun, and lots of beautiful quilts. It is held rain or shine. Friends and a way that honors God and produces in us the fruits of the families are welcome. Quilt donations can be delivered to Carol Joy Holling Camp between June 1 and July 21. Quilts cannot be accepted after July 21. Please submit in a plastic bag with donation form that can found at:

www.cjhcenter.org/quilt-auction

Kountze Food Pantry

Our Love Thy Neighbor Food Pantry is in need of your gifts and service. The current needs this week for the pantry are bottled water, spaghetti noodles. and **deodorant.** You may leave your donation in the box marked "Food Pantry," located in the Fellowship Hall. Tax deductible slips are available on the inside pocket of the box. Please join us as a volunteer in the pantry in the Kountze Commons Community Outreach Center. You are

We have options for volunteers of all abilities. Please use the link or QR code to sign up and join our mission.

welcome to volunteer as it fits your schedule.

https://tinyurl.com/uausdddp

Attendance & Giving Thursday, May 29—Wednesday, June 4

Saturday: 27

Sunday: 9:00: 93 11:00: 60

Wednesday: 12:15: 9 **Total**: 247

Streaming: 51

Pantry Guests Served: 179 (inc. 54 children) (Mon. # NA)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 15

Offering:

\$9,570.55 (Regular) \$1,038.00 (Specials)

\$287.00 (Debt Reduction)

We are children of God through the Holy Spirit.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday John 14:8-17, 25-27 Jesus promises the Holy Spirit Monday Acts 2:1-21 Filled with the Holy Spirit

Tuesday Romans 8:14-17 Life in the Spirit

Wednesday Isaiah 44:1-5 God's blessing on Israel
Thursday Galatians 5:16-25 The fruit of the Spirit
Friday 2 Kings 2:1-15a Elijah ascends to heaven
Saturday Psalm 104:24-34, 35b God the creator and provider
Sunday John 16:12-15 The Spirit will guide you into truth



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SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" It is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God. Romans 8:15-16 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Come Holy Spirit, give us faith to know that we are children of God and inheritors of your eternal love that gives us confidence to live as a follower of Christ. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Loving God, all creation looks to you to give us food in due season; we thank you that you open your hand and fill us with good things. Amen. (Psalm 104:27-28)

A Blessing to Give:

Child of God, may you be filled with the Holy Spirit.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What do you think it was like to be a slave in the ancient world?
- How do you think a first century slave felt to be told that they had been adopted as a child of God?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Romans 8:14-17.

In the first century Roman Empire, slavery was much more common than Roman citizenship. Being adopted by a family of means was a dream come true. Roman citizenship carried with it protection and opportunity. Paul uses that contemporary context to emphasize what it meant to be a follower of Jesus. Paul states that "all who are led by the Spirit of God" are adopted as "children of God" (v. 14). Pentecost focuses on the giving of the Holy Spirit for the ministry of the church. It conveys the intimacy of a familial relationship that promises a grand inheritance, but the promise of glory comes with the promise of the suffering of Christ. It is in suffering that God's love is displayed from the cross. On Pentecost Sunday, that suffering love leads the church into the world with God's saving power and glory. Discuss: How does knowing that you are an adopted child of God impact your life?

Pray: Loving God, we thank you for the Holy Spirit that makes us your children and gives us an eternal inheritance with Christ; give us grace to accept the glory and the suffering of a life in Christ. Amen.

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you help someone feel that they are valued as a child of God?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Pentecost takes place 50 days after Easter Sunday. It is when the apostles began to spread Jesus' message. It has been recognized as the birthday, the beginning, of the church. Red is the traditional color for Pentecost Sunday. Buy or make a cake. Decorate it with red icing. Place candles on the cake to represent flames and to symbolize the Holy Spirit. Buy birthday party plates and hats and have a Pentecost party. Sing Happy Birthday to the church before cutting the cake. Close the party with this reading from Psalm 104:35b.: "Bless the Lord,"

O my soul. Praise the Lord!"